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FAX No.: 0081332140929

June 03, 2003

Y/R: CFO 15758 CN (SU/KK/NA)

O/R: IIM012075

Re: Chinese Application for Invention No. 01132643.3

in the name of CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

Title: RECORDING MEDIUM, IMAGE-FORMING METHOD USING THE SAME AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SUCH RECORDING

MEDIUM

Dear Sirs:

This is to report to you that we have received a notification of the first office action issued by the Chinese Patent Office on <u>April 25, 2003</u> in connection with the above-identified patent application. Enclosed please find a copy of the Office Action, and the English translation thereof is now given below.

English Translation of the Office Action

Upon the request submitted by the applicant, examination as to substance has been carried out on the present application under Art. 35(1) of the Chinese Patent Law.

The applicant has claimed priority based on the application filed in Japan on September 7, 2000, and the applicant has furnished the priority document.

The examination has been carried out on the application as originally filed.

CN1273182A (D1) is cited as reference in the examination (The priority documents of D1 are JP118038/1999 and JP331868/1999).

The present application relates to a recording medium, image-forming method using the same and method of manufacturing such recording medium. The examiner now makes the following comments.

Claim 1 has no novelty as required by Art. 22(2) of the Chinese Patent Law. The technical solution of claim 1 differs from that of D1 (please see the abstract and the description, lines 7-9, page 18 and lines 6-8, page 20 of D1) only in literal expression, and they are actually identical with each other and moreover, they belong to the same technical field and have the same technical results. Therefore, the technical solution of claim 1 has no novelty.

Similarly, claim 13 has no novelty as required by Art. 22(2) of the Chinese Patent Law.

The technical solution of claim 13 differs from that of D1 (please see the abstract and the description, lines 7-9, page 18 and lines 6-8, page 20 of D1) only in literal expression, and they are actually identical with each other and moreover, they belong to the same technical field and have the same technical results. Therefore, the technical solution of claim 13 has no novelty.

Since D1 is a patent application filed with the Chinese Patent Office. Its filing date is April 26, 2000; it was published on November 15, 2000 and its applicant is one other than the applicant of the present application. Therefore, D1 constitutes "a conflicting application " against the present application and damages the novelty of the present application.

On condition that claims 1 and 13 cannot be allowed for lack of novelty, independent claim 11 (and its dependent claims) no longer possesses unity as required by Art. 31(1) of the Chinese Patent Law (An application for a patent for invention or utility model shall be limited to one invention or utility model. Two or more inventions or utility models belonging to a single general inventive concept may be filed as one application.). If the applicant deletes independent claim 1, he should keep only one of the other independent claims. The applicant may file a divisional application for the deleted claims at any time before the conclusion of the present application.

"BET specific surface area" appearing in claims 6 and 18 is not clear in meaning, and these claims should be amended under Rule 20(1) (The claims shall define clearly and concisely the matter for which protection is sought ...).

"Stroeckgt sizing degree of said fibrous substrate" appearing in claims 9 and 21 is not clear in meaning, and these claims should be amended under Rule 20(1).

The applicant should, within the specified time limit of 4 months, make a response to each objection raised in this notification and amend the application if necessary. Otherwise, a patent cannot be granted. Please note that any amendment to the application may not go beyond the scope of the disclosure contained in the initial description and claims.

Please note that a response to the Office Action is due on <u>August 25, 2003</u>. Your instructions two weeks before the due date would be highly appreciated.

For your information, the applicant may request an extension of up to two months upon payment of extension fees. No further extension of time is permitted.

If you have any questions connected to this matter, please feel free to let us know.

Sincerely yours,

Zhang Zuchang

CCPIT Patent and Trademark Law Office

Encl.: 1. Copy of the Notification

2. Copy of D1

中华人民共和国国家知识产权局

邮政编码: 100037

北京市阜成门外大街 2号8层 山国国际贸具促进术品会专利商标事务所



	中国国际页勿证	张祖昌	四你争为771		調整		(无审查业务专用章 不具备法律效力)	
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	□ 申请人已经提交了经历 □ 申请人尚未提交经原。 未提出优先权要求。 3. □ 申请人于年_月_ 经审查,其中: 因为上述修改 □ 修改不能被接受的具	申请国受理机关证 日和年月_ _年月日提交(不符合专利法第:	E明的第一次提出 _日提交了修改了 的不能被接 33 条的规定。[_	出的在先月 文件。 美受:	□请文件的副本, _年月日提交	根据专		
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□ 审查是针对下述申请文件进行的:								
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	▶通知书是在未进行检索的情况下作出的。	·					
	本通知书是在进行了检索的情况下作出的。 本通知书引用下述对比文献(其编号在今后的审查过程中继续沿用):						
编号		公 开 日 期 (或抵触申请的申请日)					
1	CN1273182A	2000年11月15日					
2		年月日					
3		年 月 日					
4		年 月 日					
审查	的结论性意见:						
	关于说明书:						
-	□ 申请的内容属于专利法第 5 条规定的不授予专利权的范围。						
	□ 说明书不符合专利法第 26 条第 3 款的规定。						
	□ 说明书的撰写不符合实施细则第 18 条的规定。						
⊠	关于权利要求书:						
	☑ 权利要求 1、13 不具备专利法第 22 条第 2 款规定的新颖性。						
	□ 权利要求不具备专利法第 22 条第 3 款规定的创造性。						
	□ 权利要求不具备专利法第 22 条第 4 款规定的实用性。						
	□ 权利要求属于专利法第 25 条规定的不授予专利权的范围。						
	□ 权利要求不符合专利法第 26 条第 4 款的规定。						
	□ 权利要求不符合专利法第 31 条第 1 款的规定。						
	□ 权利要求不符合实施细则第2条第1款关于发明的定义。						
	── 収利要求不符合实施细则第 13 条第 1 款的规定。						
	▼ 权利要求 5、6、8、9、11、17、18、20、21 不符合实施细则第 20 条至第	23 条的规定。					
L- 24							
	上述结论性意见,审查员认为:						
	请人应按照通知书正文部分提出的要求,对申请文件进行修改。	Andrew All I the county for Addition A 100 about					
⊠ #	请人应在意见陈述书中论述其专利申请可以被授予专利权的理由,并对通知书正	文部分中指出的小符合规定					
	性行修改,否则将不能授予专利权。						
] 专]	利申请中没有可以被授予专利权的实质性内容,如果申请人没有陈述理由或者陈述。	述理由不充分,其申请将被 驳					
申请	人应注意下述事项:						
1) ‡		意见,如果申请人无正当理					
	明不答复,其申请将被视为撤回。						
	申请人对其申请的修改应符合专利法第 33 条的规定,修改文本应一式两份,其格3	北应符合审查指南的有关视觉					
	申请人的意见陈述书和/或修改文本应邮寄或递交给国家知识产权局专利局受理处,凡未邮寄或递交给受理处的 供不具名法律效力						
	件不具备法律效力。						
	未经预约,申请人和/或代理人不得前来国家知识产权局专利局与审查员举行会晤。 						
本通知	印书正文部分共有 <u>3</u> 页,并附有下述附件:						
	用的对比文件的复印件共 <u>1</u> 份 <u>4</u> 页。						
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回函请寄: 100088